

Remarks of Michele Jacklin

Good morning Sen. Duff, Rep. Janowski, Sen. Kane, Rep. Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Michele Jacklin and it's an honor to be appointed as a public member of the Connecticut Medical Examining Board by Gov. Dannel Malloy.

I would like to thank this committee for the opportunity to appear before you regarding my desire to serve on the Medical Examining Board.

Some of you may know me or remember me from the 28 years that I spent as a journalist with The Hartford Courant, primarily covering politics, government and public policy. Indeed, from 1981 through the end of 2005, the State Capitol and subsequently the Legislative Office Building were my homes away from home. I got to know many of you during my stints as a legislative reporter, chief political writer, editorial writer and ultimately as political columnist, a job that I held for the last eight years that I was employed by The Courant.

As a journalist, I loved chronicling the history of Connecticut as it unfolded and watching history in the making. Having known hundreds if not thousands of public officials at all levels of government, I have nothing but the utmost respect for those who are committed to public service. Based on my work experience, I also have a deep understanding of Connecticut's legislative and political processes and of state government. That is an important reason why – after I left Trinity College in June, where I had worked in the communications office for seven years – I sought to serve my state in some capacity. I felt that I had the background and experience to contribute to Connecticut's well-being.

I currently own a communications consulting firm and serve on the boards of some nonprofit organizations. I also served for two years on the Glastonbury Town Council, although my term ended in 2011. Having resigned from my full-time job at Trinity College, I have the time to devote to the Medical Examining Board.

Although I did not specifically cover this board while I was a journalist, I know that the board's work is of utmost importance to the citizens of Connecticut and I welcome the challenge of contributing to its fine work. Having attended two meetings, I am thoroughly impressed with the talented people who serve on this board and with their commitment to ensuring that Connecticut's health-care professionals adhere to state regulations and perform their jobs with professionalism, competence, integrity and honesty.

I respectfully ask that you approve my appointment to the Connecticut Medical Examining Board so that I may perform the public service that I have for so long admired in others.

Thank you and I would be glad to answer any questions that you have.